

APPENDIX 1

Public and Peer Review Panel Comments

Appendix 1-3
Authors Responses to Comments

Appendix 1-3n
Author's Response to Comments on Chapter 14

Chapter 14: Exotic Plants in the Everglades

Summary of Peer Review Comments

Comment: What are the “secondary exotic species?”

Response: These secondary species are those mentioned under the heading on page 14-9 and text references are now more consistent.

Comment: How are resource managers treating populations of Old World climbing fern on tree islands?

Response: On tree islands, ground crews cut fern stems, leaving aerial material to wither, and treat fern growth on the ground with herbicides. In small trials in cypress forest during winter defoliation of the cypress trees, Old World climbing fern has been treated aerially with herbicides.

Comment: How is the absence of rachis material indicative of new (Old World climbing fern) populations?

Response: The “new” fern populations have little or no rachis material present. As the fern colonies develop, rachis material develops into dense blankets, which have reached depths of more than one meter in some south Florida infestations.

Comment: What is the “Hole in the Doughnut?”

Response: The “Hole in the Doughnut” is a 14,280-hectare area within Everglades National Park. This area was once cleared for farming only to sprout forth densely in Brazilian pepper and a few other exotic species when agriculture activity halted.

ALL OTHER COMMENTS WERE MINOR EDITORIAL SUGGESTIONS WHICH WERE ADOPTED.